

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) -funded National and Regional Minority Organizations (NRMOs) are committed to ensuring that community-based organizations receive necessary technical assistance and training (TA/T) to strengthen HIV prevention programs. To help fulfill this commitment, the Community Assistance, Planning, and National Partnerships Branch (CAPNPB) funded seven NRMOs to conduct a national assessment of the technical assistance and training needs of community-based organizations (CBOs). The Program Evaluation Research Branch (PERB) provided leadership and technical assistance to the NRMOs in conducting this needs assessment. The NRMOs initially involved with this assessment were the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC), National Alumni AIDS Prevention Project (NAAPP), Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), National Latina/o Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGO), National Council of La Raza (NCLR), Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA), and National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP), which later withdrew from the project. These NRMOs worked with one another to assess the technical assistance and training needs of CBOs serving communities of color and marginalized groups.

The needs assessment focused on seven priorities related to technical assistance and training: 1) community planning, 2) the use of surveillance and epidemiologic information to target and design programs, 3) the use of behavioral and social sciences to design and implement effective HIV prevention programs, 4) evaluation of HIV prevention programs' process and outcome, 5) incorporation of biomedical research findings into HIV prevention programs, 6) the use of behavioral science theories to develop programs, and 7) coordination of HIV prevention activities with other providers of preventive care such as health departments and managed care organizations.

Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used. The NRMOs conducted focus groups, key informant interviews, and talking circles with CBO representatives and program consumers throughout the United States and its territories. Additionally, a questionnaire (see attached) was developed and sent to CBOs. The questionnaire had two parts, a core sent by all NRMOs and a section that was individualized by each NRMO. The purpose of the core was to capture the location and primary focus of the CBOs, as well as the demographics of the populations served. It also collected information regarding technical assistance and training needs and priorities. The information collected in the core will assist CDC in mapping the results of the survey to determine regional needs and funding gaps.

Each NRMO adapted the second section with more specific questions about CBOs' prevention programs and target populations. It also collected information about each of the seven key areas described above. This final report summarizes the data and information collected and will be made available to NRMOs and federal, state, and local authorities. It describes:

- ❖ Gaps in capacity-building activities and current technical assistance and training services
- ❖ Priorities for current technical assistance and training resources
- ❖ Justification for current or additional resources.

CAPNPB, working with the NRMOs and CBOs, will use this information to improve NRMO services to CBOs and to help the NRMOs improve their technical assistance and training activities.